

SECRET

AIR

MDL-6278

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

21 September 1950

Chief, TIZ

Operational

CANVAS

SECRET:

WTH-3743 and 3744

1. On reading the CANVAS file, the following facts appear:

- a. His security, intelligence and interim loyalty are considered good;
- b. he is judged an opportunist;
- c. his reporting (incompletely shown here) is good;
- d. his knowledge of past phases of the organization is extensive;
- e. we have no clear idea of how you propose to use him.

At the present time of this assessment, his original conviction from Berlin was at the high point of his knowledge of the organization, and since he has been follow for over two years should cause little trouble now. Also, he is no more an opportunist than most of our other agents are or become.

2. Two questions appear in order at this point. First, for the record, what is his marital status? You stated that he either wants to marry or has married recently. Our records indicate that he married in 1939 and has two children. Our main doubt is connected with his pending reversion of his true identity. His original conviction was staged because of the danger that he might fall into KIB hands with considerable information on the organization. Now, apparently, you intend to have him resume the name known to the TIZ, and at the same time use him in such a way (hard agent, cut-out, third dog) that he will gain new insight into our methods and personnel. All this is to happen in western Germany, which may soon be more accessible to the American than Berlin was in 1947.

3. However, since you feel that CANVAS may be of use to you, we are inclined to approve your efforts. We provide in that you first furnish us with a statement on the exact status of his papers as well as more concrete suggestions on his use, keeping the above security doubts in mind. We think that

SECRET

2	INDEX
18 FEB 1954	

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SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

- 2 -

if his legalization under his true name takes place, you might still find a place for him along the lines of WGA-5710 of 12 April, but agree entirely that the question of his identity and allied personal matters must be clarified first. Interim expenditure of 1500 Lm is authorized.

- 2 -